

U.S. Rep. Louise M. Slaughter 28th Congressional District of New York PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 14, 2004

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REP. SLAUGHTER ANNOUNCES \$2.4 MILLION FOR ROCHESTER'S INNER LOOP

Rochester, NY – U.S. Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY28) today announced that she has secured \$2.4 million for the reconstruction of the southeast portion of Rochester's Inner Loop. The proposed project will raise parts of the highway and change its alignment in an effort to connect Center City with adjacent neighborhoods and make more property usable. The funding, which Rep. Slaughter secured in transportation legislation that recently passed the House, will pay for design and environmental work associated with the project.

"This funding will pave the way to a revitalized downtown Rochester," said Rep. Slaughter. "As the City has recognized, reconnecting neighborhoods and commercial areas that have been cut off from downtown by the Inner Loop will be key to reviving the local economy. This project will help make the area more attractive to business and more pedestrian accessible for customers and tourists. I look forward to working with the City to see this project through."

"I am extremely pleased that the Inner Loop project will now be able to move forward," said Rochester Mayor William A. Johnson, Jr. "Reconnecting our Center City with the surrounding neighborhoods will certainly give our city a sense of renewed energy and vitality. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Representative Slaughter for her diligent efforts to secure funding for this phase of the project."

The project aims to reconnect neighborhoods and commercial districts adjacent to the Inner Loop with downtown Rochester. A portion of the Inner Loop from East Main Street to Clinton Avenue will be realigned and raised so that streets will be reconnected. Improving streets like Monroe Avenue and East Avenue at the Inner Loop will create opportunities for the construction of new shops and restaurants. In turn, surrounding neighborhoods will benefit from new economic development. The design will also make the area more pedestrian friendly, and will open up property now unusable. Institutions like the Strong Museum will be able to expand their current facilities.

The City of Rochester's Comprehensive Plan, Rochester 2010: The Renaissance Plan, includes a campaign to revitalize Rochester's Center City. The campaign seeks to expand the area known as Center City to include surrounding neighborhoods by reducing the physical barrier represented by the Inner Loop.